



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REPUBLIC, MO., MAN SENTENCED FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF PIPE BOMB

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Republic, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for illegal possession of a pipe bomb.

Kenneth Ellis, 36, of Republic, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Richard E. Dorr this morning to three years and 10 months in federal prison without parole.

On March 4, 2004, **Ellis** pleaded guilty to illegally possessing a pipe bomb. By pleading guilty, he admitted that he possessed the destructive device on Aug. 17, 2003, in Greene County, Mo. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal for any person to possess an explosive device that is not registered in their name in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record.

Ellis possessed a pipe bomb that consisted of a metal container, black powder and fuse.

Ellis was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Nov. 19, 2003, in Springfield. He was arrested after law enforcement officers responded to investigate a disturbance at a residence located near East Hines Street in Republic on Aug. 17, 2003.

This case was prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney James J. Kelleher. The case was investigated by the Greene County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow